

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 CAB-02 COME-00

DOT-00 FAA-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /062 W

-----101652 191516Z /44

O R 191458Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3080

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, NI

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: USG/FMG BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS

REF: (A) STATE 196383, (B) STATE 190888

1. PRINCIPAL SECRETARY IN FEDERAL MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION, T. A. ADEGBENRO, HAS INFORMED EMBOFF THAT HIS MINISTRY WILL BE UNABLE TO ATTEND TALKS WEEK OF AUGUST 29 AS PROPOSED REF B. HE SAID MINISTRY WILL BE TOO BUSY NOW THROUGH SEPTEMBER PREPARING FOR ICAO MEETING IN MONTREAL.

2. ADEGBENRO ASKED EMBASSY TO CONVEY FMG DISPLEASURE WITH USG ACTIONS THUS FAR IN ARRANGING NEGOTIATIONS. HE SAID HIS MINISTRY BELIEVES USG IS INTENTIONALLY QTE DRAGGING ITS FEET UNQTE ON THIS MATTER BECAUSE IT IS SATISFIED WITH QTE REAPING THE BENEFITS UNQTE OF THE EXISTING INFORMAL AGREEMENT. WHILE EMPHASIZING FMG DESIRE TO MAINTAIN GOOD RELATIONS WITH QTE FRIENDLY COUNTRY UNQTE, HE ADDED THAT USG TACTICS ARE QTE TAXING OUR PATIENCE UNQTE
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AND EMPHASIZED THAT THE INFORMAL AGREEMENT CAN EASILY BE CANCELLED AT ANY TIME.

3. EMBOFF REPLIED THAT USG HAS HEAVY SCHEDULE OF CIVAIR TALKS THIS YEAR WITH OTHER COUNTRIES AND THAT THESE UNFORTUNATE DIFFICULTIES IN FINDING A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE DATE SHOULD NOT BE INTERPRETED AS A LEASENING OF USG INTEREST IN NEGOTIATING

WITH NIGERIA. CLEARLY UNCONVINCED, ADEGBENRO ASKED IF USG COULD PROPOSE OTHER DATES BEFORE END OF YEAR FOR TALKS TO BEGIN. IF NOT, MINISTRY PROPOSES SECOND WEEK IN JANUARY, 1978.

4. COMMENT: FMG CLEARLY LOSING PATIENCE WITH REPEATED DELAYS IN ARRANGING NEGOTIATIONS FOR FORMAL BILATERAL AGREEMENT. TO ALLAY FMG CONCERNS AND THUS PREVENT UNNECESSARY FRICTION IN IMPROVED USG/FMG RELATIONS. EMBASSY STRONGLY RECOMMENDS DEPARTMENT MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO INITIATE TALKS BEFORE END OF YEAR. RECOMMEND FURTHER THAT DEPARTMENT PROPOSE TWO OR THREE POSSIBLE DATES FOR FMG CONSIDERATION.

WYMAN

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 19-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
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